Reply To Examiner's Remarks

Claims 1-5, 7-16 and 18-22, as amended, are pending for consideration.

The Examiner objects to the drawings, observing that a reference numeral "51" is missing on Figure 4. A request for approval of a drawing change is submitted with this response.

The Examiner rejects claims 12-22 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite, recommending that a line or phrase "connecting a switch sensor to saidmagnetic switch for sensing the state of the switch" be added to claim 12 to remove the indefiniteness. Claim 12 is amended to add what is believed to be an equivalent phrase.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-5, 7-16 and 18-22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious in view of the combined disclosures of U.S. Patent No. 4,707,679, issued to Kennon et al, and U.S. Patent No. 4,663,601, issued to Troutman et al.

The Examiner indicates that claims 6 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten as independent claims including the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 1 and 12 are amended to include the limitations of the claims 6 and 17, respectively, in accord with the Examiner's instructions, and claims 6 and 17 are canceled herein. Claims 1 and 12, as amended herein, are believed to be allowable.

Claims 1-5 and 7-11 depend upon amended claim 1 and are believed to be allowable if claim 1 is allowable. Claims 13-16 and 18-22 depend upon amended claims 12 and are believed to be allowable if claim 12 is allowable.

The Applicants request that the Examiner pass the application, including claims 1-5, 7-16 and 18-22, as amended, to issue as a U.S. patent.

Date: 26 June 2002

Respectfully Submitted,

John Schipper

Patent Attorney for Applicants